

CONSTITUTION

Canadian Socialist Federation

Adopted in Convention at Toronto, Ont.,
April 15 and 16, 1911

Endorsed by Party Refendum
May 30, 1911



ISSUED BY THE
General Executive Committee, C.S.F.
BERLIN, ONTARIO



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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. MANAGEMENT

Section 1—The management of the Federation shall be conducted by a General Executive Committee, local organizations, conventions and referendum vote.

ARTICLE II. LOCALS.

Section 1—Five or more persons may form a local in any constituency, provided they acknowledge the Platform and Constitution, and subscribe to its pledge of membership. Subject to the approval of the General Executive Committee, a charter shall be issued when accompanied with the current month's dues and a fee of three dollars, which shall include, a constitution, a receipt book and five membership cards.

Section 2—Only one charter shall be issued to any one language in cities having a population of less than twenty-five thousand.

Section 3—Each local shall receive a name and a number. Subject to the constitution complete local autonomy shall prevail.

Section 4—Every applicant for membership shall fill out and sign an application as follows:

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in Local Province of Canadian Socialist Federation.

I recognize the exploitation of the workers by the capitalist class, the ever growing misery of the workers and the absolute necessity of the working class to capture the political power.

If admitted to membership I hereby pledge myself to support the ticket of the Canadian Socialist Federation, and its international affiliations only.

Applicant Address

Occupation

Age Voter

Admitted to Local 19

..... Chairman Sec'y.

Section 5—Each member shall pay a monthly tax of twenty-five cents, which shall be received for by stamps purchased from the General Executive Committee, at ten cents each, and initiated by the secretary of the Local. The remaining fifteen cents shall go into the Local's treasury and be used for such purposes as the members may decide.

Section 6—Any member sixty days in arrears of dues or assessments shall be considered in bad standing and suspended of all privileges of membership until he fulfill his obligation.

Section 7—Any violation of the pledge of membership or constitution shall be considered warrant for suspension or expulsion. It shall require a majority vote of all members

in good standing at a special meeting called for the consideration of any charge preferred against any member.

Section 8—Any member shall have the right to appeal against the decision of the Local to the General Executive Committee and to a general vote.

Section 9—Secretaries shall make quarterly reports within fifteen days to the General Executive Committee.

Section 10—In case of dissolution of any Local all property must be delivered to the General Executive Committee.

Section 11—When approved of by a majority vote of Locals of any constituency, a convention may be held for the nomination of a candidate or any other matter pertaining to the Federation. Any Local may initiate a referendum.

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ARTICLE III. GENERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Section 1—The General Executive Committee shall be composed of seven members, to be elected by a general vote of the membership of the constituency wherein is located the seat of the Committee. Any Local outside of the seat of the Committee may add to the membership of the Committee by sending one delegate whenever it desires to do so.

Section 2—The members of the General Executive Committee shall be elected for the term of one year, but may be reelected at the expiration thereof.

The election shall take place between November 1st and December 15th of each year, the term of office to begin with January 1st following.

Section 3—The General Executive Committee has for its duty;

(a) To supervise the agitation throughout the Dominion.

(b) To receive propositions relating to affairs of the Federation endorsed by three or more Locals and shall without delay submit said propositions to general vote.

(c) To make all preparations for conventions, and make a full report of such convention.

(d) To issue to the Locals semi-annually and in a sufficient number of copies, a report of the Federation finances.

(e) To be represented at conventions by the Secretary and Treasurer, or duly elected substitutes, with a voice only. To have voting privileges on committees.

(f) To employ organizers to further the interests of the Federation, the Committee to be held responsible for the qualifications and efficiency of such.

Section 4—The General Executive Committee may compensate its officers according to the labor performed by them, from the Treasury of the Federation.

Section 5—To formulate and adopt a uniform system of financial and other records, including Secretary books, vouchers, reports, application blanks, etc., and to furnish all such supplies at actual cost.

Section 6—To furnish due stamps to Locals at ten cents each.

ARTICLE IV. CONVENTIONS

Section 1—A general vote of the membership of the Federation shall be taken each year between March 1st and June 1st to decide upon the necessity and approximate date

of holding a convention, and where it shall be held.

Section 2—Each Local shall be entitled to one vote and an additional vote for each twenty members or major portion thereof, in good standing. No delegate shall cast more than ten votes.

Section 3—All proceedings of the conventions shall be submitted to the Locals for general vote.

Section 4—Transportation expenses of one delegate from each Local shall be paid out of the funds of the Federation. Locals sending more than one delegate shall bear expense of such.

Section 5—The General Executive Committee shall be empowered to levy assessments, subject to referendum.

ARTICLE V. PROPAGANDA.

Section 1—Locals other than English speaking shall have full control of conducting propaganda in their respective languages. Such propaganda must be consistent with the constitution and platform of the Federation.

Section 2—When two or more Locals of any language exist in any province, a committee to be known as a propaganda committee may be elected by a referendum vote of the membership of those Locals.

Section 3—Any Local may initiate a referendum; a majority vote shall decide.

Section 4—Propaganda committees shall have the right to levy special assessments, subject to referendum.

Section 5—Foreign speaking Locals shall be exempt from any special assessments other than convention, levied by General Executive Committee.

BY-LAWS

Section 1—Any violation of the provisions of the constitution by a Local shall be deemed sufficient warrant to empower the General Executive Committee to suspend such Local and immediately submit its action for the approval of the general membership.

Section 2—The officers of the Local shall be elected for the term of one year, but may be re-elected at the expiration thereof. The election of officers shall take place during the month of December, term of office to begin on the first of January following.

Section 3—The Local shall hold at least one business meeting each month.

Section 4—The result of every election of officers within the Local must be communicated at once to the General Executive Committee.

Section 5—All officers, boards and committees shall be subject to removal by their constituents.

Section 6—A member in good standing of one Local shall have the right to attend and speak at any meeting of another Local, but shall not be allowed to vote.

Section 7—No portion of the Socialist Federation shall act in conjunction with any body of men not recognizing the class struggle and the necessity of abolishing capitalism.

Section 8—Each Local shall provide for the audit of its accounts semi-annually.

Section 9--The order of business at all business meetings of the Federation shall be as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Reading of minutes.
3. Application for membership.
4. Correspondence and Bills.
5. Report of Committees.
6. Report of Organizer.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New Business.
9. Good of Movement.
10. Financial reports.

Adjournment.



PLATFORM

We, the Canadian Socialist Federation in Convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to and support of the International Socialist movement.

By virtue of the ownership of the means of life, (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads, etc.) all wealth the workers produce accrues into the hands of the capitalist class. This property the capitalist defends by means of the state (the army, the navy, the judiciary.)

The object of the Canadian Socialist Federation is to educate the workers of Canada to a consciousness of their class position in society, their economic servitude to the owners of capital, and to organize them into a political party to seize the reins of government and transform all capitalist property into the collective property of the working-class. This social transformation means the liberation not only of the proletariat, but of the whole human race. Only the working-class, however, can bring it about. All other classes maintain their existence by supporting the existing social order.

The struggle of the working-class against capitalist exploitation necessitates a struggle between master and slave for the control of the political and economic power.

As measures calculated to strengthen the working-class in its fight for the realization of its ultimate aim, and to increase its power of resistance to capitalist oppression, the Canadian Socialist Federation advocates and

pledges itself and its elected representatives to the following programme.

1. The Canadian Socialist Federation recognizes the need of economic organization, appreciates the immense service that labor unions have been to the working class, and desires that they become a more powerful and active factor in industrial and political life.

2. A shorter work day not to exceed eight hours.

3. Universal adult suffrage to any citizen, without distinction of sex, and without regard to the amount of property he or she may own. To have the right to run for public office and vote for candidates.

4. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall.

Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to seize the whole powers of government, in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry and thus come by their rightful inheritance.

Price List of Supplies

Charter.....	\$3.00
Due Stamps, each10
" Cards "01
Platforms, per hundred.....	.25
Receipt Books, each.....	.15
Warrant " "15
Constitutions, per dozen15



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